

**Approved: November 10, 2008**

**UTAH PASSENGER ROPEWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**September 8, 2008**

**Wolf Creek Resort  
Golf Course Clubhouse  
Eden, Utah**

**Committee Members Present:**

Chris Anderson, Chairman  
LeRoy Schultz, Vice-chairman  
Onno Wieringa, Member  
Les Fuller, Member  
Curt Panter, Member

**Attorney General's Office**

Andy Cushing

**UDOT Commissioner**

Stephen Bodily

**Members Absent:**

Peter Dahlberg, Member  
Robert Hull, Ex-officio Member

**Committee Support Staff:**

Brian Allen, Ropeway Safety Engineer  
Cindy Finau, Secretary

**Others Present:**

William Bozack, Willis Independent  
Jeff Summers, Wolf Creek Resort  
Mike White, Wolf Mountain  
Pat McLane, Park City Mountain Resort  
Ted Seeholzer, Beaver Mountain Ski Area  
Travis Seeholzer, Beaver Mountain Ski Area  
Jeff West, Beaver Mountain Ski Area  
Paul Ehlert, Doppelmayer-CTEC  
Dal Freeman, Lagoon  
Kevin Bourne, USFS  
JR Reinhardt, The Canyons  
Shane Matthews, Powder Mountain  
Spencer Adams, Solitude  
Nate Lee, Solitude  
Rich Taxwood, Snowbird

## **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 1:00p.m. Chris Anderson thanked Jeff Summers for once again hosting the Ropeway Committee Meeting and for the golfing invitation before the meeting. He also thanked the helpful and friendly employees at Wolf Creek. Appreciation was given to all areas represented as well as manufacturers and interested parties for there continued attendance and support.

## **I. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

After a brief review of the minutes taken June 11, 2008, two changes were noted. Les Fuller motioned to approve the minutes as amended and Onno Wieringa seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **II. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR**

Since Chris Anderson's term as Chair is up, it is necessary to nominate both a new Chair and Vice-chair for the Utah Passenger Ropeway Committee. Les Fuller nominated LeRoy Schultz as the new Chair and Onno Wieringa as the Vice-chair. There were no other nominees. They were elected unanimously. Chris Anderson took a few moments to thank everyone for the help and support they have given him over the years. He is truly appreciates everyone and feels honored to have been able to contribute to the Committee as Chairman. Chris relinquished his duties to the new Chair, LeRoy Schultz.

## **III. EXCEPTION REQUEST – PARK CITY RESORT**

Pat McLane sent a letter to Brian Allen requesting an exception for the new Crescent Lift at Park City Mountain Resort. He explained that a high speed detachable quad lift is being installed and will pass underneath the cables of a summer ride called the Ziprider and over a bridge that supports the track of an Alpine Coaster. There are two items that need to be addressed, and Pat McLane spoke about each one:

1. Zipriders Overhead Cables
2. Alpine Coaster Bridge

It was the consensus of the Committee that no action is necessary for the Zipriders Overhead Cables. The Alpine Coaster Bridge needs to be resubmitted. It will be resubmitted on the standard form for an annual exception. LeRoy Schultz made a motion that the exception for the Alpine Coaster Bridge be approved with the condition that the paperwork be completed as discussed. Onno Wieringa seconded the motion and suggested that a visual inspection be made when the project is completed. Verification of the clearances will be made at the Crescent lift load test. The motion passed unanimously.

## **IV. EARTHQUAKE CAUSED DEROPEMENTS**

Brian Allen has been trying to find information regarding an earthquake in Ojiya, Japan where a number of deropements occurred during the quake. Through Doppelmayer's contacts in Japan, Mike Beeley was able to obtain some information. The epicenters of a lot of the earthquakes around Japan are in the Pacific Ocean. In this particular case, the epicenter happened in the proximity of most of the ski areas. The facts Brian found about the quake are a follows:

- It occurred on October 23, 2004
- It was the magnitude of 6.8.
- None of the lifts were in operation.
- Only one fixed grip lift had chairs on, and the others were bare rope.
- Identification of every ski area location was not found. It appeared that most of the resorts were near the epicenter.
- One resort approximately 200 miles away had a fixed grip deropement.
- Approximately ½ of the lifts appeared to have been tensioned to 60%
- Of the resorts that were listed, 5 of 10 detachables deroped and 38 of 64 fixed grips deroped.

## V. UPDATES

### Forest Service

Nothing was presented from the Forest Service.

### Staff

Brian Allen said there have been reports of broken tower bolts on Riblet lifts. NSAA has recommended that these bolts should be checked. The only lift with Riblet towers is the Snake Creek detachable at Brighton. The Snake Creek Towers are a different size than the towers reported with broken bolts. The problem may be a result of over tightening the bolts. Brighton has decided to replace the bolts on a 7-year rotation as recommended by NSAA.

### Areas

**ALTA:** Onno Wieringa said work is progressing on the new loading conveyor for the Supreme lift.

**SNOWBIRD:** Rich Taxwood indicated they are done with their summertime daily operations and are only open on weekends for the Oktoberfest.

**SOLITUDE:** Nate Lee commented that the towers for both new lifts went in last week. The lifts are ahead of schedule.

**WOLF MOUNTAIN:** Jeff Summers said they have finished their summer operations and are completing the summer maintenance.

**POWDER MOUNTAIN:** Shane Matthews said they had a maintenance summer this year.

**THE CANYONS:** J.R. Reinhardt stated they are doing summer operations on the weekends only until October 1<sup>st</sup>. They have the foundations in for their two new lifts.

**LAGOON:** Dal Freeman commented that things are good at Lagoon. The Frontrunner has helped with transporting people to Lagoon, especially the kids.

**PARK CITY MOUNTAIN RESORT:** Pat McLane said they had a very good summer and will remain open until October 12<sup>th</sup> before shutting down the summer operations. The attendance has been steady.

**BEAVER MOUNTAIN:** Ted Seeholzer said they had a very busy summer and are just waiting for the snow.

## VII. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at the UDOT Complex on November 10<sup>th</sup>.